



**May 2021**

## **Toilets are NOT Trash Cans**

Gwinnett County sewerage system is designed to dispose of very specific things: water, toilet paper and human waste.

Many things you may think are “flushable” do not disperse or break apart once they are in our sanitary sewer system. As these non-dispersibles collect in the sewer pipe, they can eventually cause blockages that can lead to sanitary sewer backups or overflows and property damage.

Using the toilet as a trashcan can result in clogged pipes, tangled pumps and messy sewer backups into creeks, streets, businesses, and homes. These backups are harmful to the environment and costly for homeowners and utilities.

### **What NOT to flush:**

- Medications
- Rubber items such as latex gloves
- Kitty litter or aquarium gravel
- Cleaning wipes of any sort
- Cotton swabs
- Hair
- Cigarette butts
- Dental floss
- Sanitary napkins
- Toys or plastic items of any type

### **Learn More**

***Protecting your property:*** Backups can happen not only in the county’s system, but your home’s plumbing as well. Click [here](#) for more information.

***Toilet paper vs. wipes:*** Consumer Reports created a video showing how quickly toilet paper breaks apart. Click here to watch.

<https://www.consumerreports.org/video/view/money/shopping/22783507001/are-flushable-wipes-flushable/>

###